

P H E N I X

England Scotland & Ireland

OR THE

8.

SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVENANT;

Of the Three Kingdoms of

SCOTLAND, ENGLAND and IRELAND;

F O R

Reformation and Defence of Religion, Sworn to in the
Three Kingdoms.

With Some ACTS of the Church and State, Authoriz-
ing the same.

Ezekiel 17. V. 15. But he rebelled against Him, in sending
his Ambassadors to Egypt, that they might give him Horses
and much People: shall he prosper? shall he escape that doth
such things? or shall he break the Covenant, and be delivered!

V. 16. As I live saith the LORD GOD, surely in the place
where the King dwelleth, that made him King, whose Oath he
he despised, and whose Covenant he broke; even with him, in the
midst of Babylon, he shall die.

Levit. 26. 25. And I will send a Sword upon you, that shall
avenge the quarrel of my Covenant.

Deut. 27. 17. Cursed be he, that removeth his Neighbours Land
mark; and all the People shall say, Amen.

Re-Printed in the Year, M. DCC. VII.

The Result of the Debates and Consultation of the Committees of the Convention of Estates, and General Assembly, appointed to meet with the Commissioners of the Parliament of England.

August 17. 1643.

THE Committees of the Convention of Estates of Scotland, and of the General Assembly, being appointed to meet with the Commissioners of the two Houses of the Parliament of England, upon the Papers delivered in by the said Commissioners unto the Convention of Estates, and unto the General Assembly, upon the 12 and 15 of this instant 1643, concerning the desires of both Houses of Parliament, for a Near and strict Union to be entered into by the two Kingdoms. And it being declared at the said Meeting, with what sensible Affections the General Assembly and Convention of Estates did receive the desires abovementioned, and how beneficial it would be for the more firm Settlement of the said Union, That a COVENANT should be entered into, by both Nations. And the Form thereof being by all the foresaids Persons taken into most serious Debate and Consideration, and agreed unto: it was thereupon Resolved by them, that it should be presented to the General Assembly, to the Convention of Estates of Scotland, and to the two Houses of the Parliament of England by their respective Committees and Commissioners, that it might with all speed receive their respective Resolutions.

Subscribed by

Ta. Primros.

A. Ker.

William Bond, Sec. Com.

The LEAGUE and COVENANT abovementioned, being sent with the Commissioners of this Assembly to the Parliament of England and Assembly of Divines in that Kingdom, to be received and approved there, and is to be Printed at the Return thereof.



Ap.

*Approbation of
tioned.*

LEAGUE and COVENANT *abovementioned.*

THE Assembly having recommended unto a Committee of the Honourable Convention of Estates, and the Commissioners of the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of *England*, for bringing the Kingdom to a nearer Conjunction & Union, received from the aforesaid Committees, the COVENANT abovementioned as the Result of their Consultations: & having taken the same, as a matter of so publick concernment, & of so deep importance, doth require, unto their gravest consideration: did with all their Hearts, & with the beginnings of the feeling of that joy, which they did find in so great measure upon the Renovation of the National Covenant of the Kirk and Kingdom, *all with one voice approve and embrace the same*, as the most powerful mean by the blessing of GOD for settling and preserving the true Protestant Religion, with perfect Peace in his Majesty's Dominions, and propagating the same to other Nations, and for establishing his Majesties Throne to all Ages and Generations: And therefore with their best affection, recommend the same to the Honourable Convention of Estates, that being examined and approved by them, it may be sent with all Diligence to the Kingdom of *England*, that being received and approved there, the same may be with publick Humiliation, all Religious and answerable Solemnity Sworn and Subscribed by all true Professors of the Reformed Religion, and all his Majesties Subjects in both Kingdoms.

Edinburgh 6 October 1648, Post Meridiem.

Act for renewing the Solemn LEAGUE and COVENANT.

THE Commission of the General Assembly, considering that a great part of this Land, have involved themselves in many and gross breaches of the SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVENANT, and that the hands of many are grown slack in following and pursuing the Duties contained therein, and that many, who not being come to sufficient Age when it was first Sworn and Subscribed, have not hitherto been received into the same; do upon these and other grave and impor-

tant Considerations, Appoint and Ordain
 and COVENANT to be renewed througho
 this Kingdom: And because it is a Duty of g
 consequence, Ministers after the sight hereof, should be careful to take
 pains in their Doctrine and otherwise, that their People may be made
 sensible of these things, whetein they have broken the COVENANT,
 and be prepared for the renewing thereof, with suitable Aff-
 ections, and Dispositions; and that these things may be the better perfo
 me we have thought it necessary, to condescend upon a Solemn acknow-
 legment of publick Sins, and breaches of the Covenant, and a Solemn
 Engagement to all the Duties contained therein, namely those which do
 in a more special way relate unto the dangers of those times, and this
 Solemn Acknowledgment and Engagements sent herewith, shall be
 made use of, and the LEAGUE and COVENANT shall be renew-
 ed in such manner as follows: First, There shall be Intimation of a So-
 lemn Publick Humiliation and Fast the second Sabbath of *December*, to
 be kept upon the next *Thursday*, and LORD'S Day thereafter: At
 which Intimation, the LEAGUE and COVENANT, and the pub-
 lick acknowledgment of Sins and Engagements to Duties are to be
 Publickly read by the Minister, in Audience of the People, they are
 to be exhorted to get Copies thereof, that they may be made acquaint-
 ed therewith, and the Humiliation and Fast is to be kept the next
Thursday thereafter, in reference to the breaches of the COVENANT
 contained in the Solemn Publick Acknowledgment as the causes there-
 of: And the next LORD'S Day thereafter, which is also to be spent
 in Publick Humiliation and Fasting, immediatly after the Sermon,
 which is to be applyed to the business of that Day: The publick Ac-
 knowlegment and Engagement is again to be publickly Read, and
 thereafter Prayer is to be made, containing the Confession of the
 Breaches mentioned therein, and begging Mercy for those Sins, and the
 strength of GOD for renewing the COVENANT in Sincerity and
 Truth: After which Prayer the, SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVE-
 NANT is to be Read by the Minister, and then to be Sworn by him
 & all the People who are to engage themselves for performance of those
 Duties contained therein, namely these which are mentioned in the pub-
 lick Acknowledgem nt and Engagement, and are opposite to the Sins
 therein conf-
 fessed, and the Action is to be closed with Prayer to GOD
 that

His Power
their Duty according

the Power of His Strength to do
their Oath now renewed in so SOLEMN a
way: It is also hereby provided, That all those who renew the
LEAGUE and COVENANT, shall again Subscribe the same, and
that none be admitted to the Renewing or Subscribing thereof, who
are excluded by the other Act, and Direction sent herewith.

Edinburgh 6 October 1648.

A. Ker.

The Act of the Committee of Estates.

Edinburgh, 14 of October 1648.

THE Committee of Estates bring very sensible of the grievous back
slidings of this Land, in the manifold breaches of the SOLEMN
LEAGUE and Covenant made and sworn to the most High GOD,
do therefore unanimously and heartily approve the seasonable and pious
Resolution of the Commission of the General Assembly, for a Solemn
acknowledgment of publick Sins and Provocations, especially the
breaches of the COVENANT, and a Solemn Engagement to a more
conscientious performance of that Duty therein contained, and for Re-
newing the SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVENANT, and do re-
quire and ordain, that the Directions of the said Commission of Assemb-
ly, in their Act of the 6 of this Month, for a publick acknowledgement
of Sins and Engagement to Duties, be carefully followed; that the
Fast and Humiliation appointed by them, be religiously observed,
and that the SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVENANT be sincerely
and Cordially Renewed, and Subscribed in the manner they have pre-
scribed in their said Act.

Extractum

Mr Thomas Henderson.

A SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVENANT.

*For Reformation and Defence of Religion in the Three King-
doms of Scotland, England and Ireland,*

WE Noblemen, Barons, Knights, Gentlemen, Citizens Burgeesses,
Ministers of the Gospel, Commons of all sorts, in the King-
doms of Scotland, England and Ireland, and by the Provi-
dence of GOD, living under one King, and being of one reformed Re-
ligion

ligion, having before our Eyes the Glory and
the advancement of the Kingdom of our LORD and
CHRIST, the Honour and Happiness of the King-
doms, wherein every ones private condition is included; and calling
to mind the Treacherous and Bloody Plots, Conspiracies, Attempts and
Practices of the Enemies of GOD against the true Religion & Profes-
sors thereof in all places, especially in these Three Kingdoms, ever since
the Reformation of Religion, and how much their Rage, Power and
Presumption are of late, and at this time, increased and exercised, where-
of the Deplorable Estate of the Church and Kingdom of *Ireland*, the
distressed Estate of the Church and Kingdom of *England*, and the dan-
gerous Estate of the Church and Kingdom of *Scotland*, are present and
publick Testimonies. We have now at last after other means of Sup-
plication, Remonstrance, Protestations and Sufferings, for the Preser-
vation of our selves and our Religion from utter Ruin and Destruction,
according to the commendable practice of these Kingdoms in for-
mer times, and the Example of GOD's People, in other Nations af-
ter Mature Deliberation, Resolved and Determined, to enter into a
mutual and SOLEMN LEAGUE and COVENANT, wherein we
all Subscribe and each one of us for himself, with our hands lifted up,
to the most High GOD, do Swear.

I. That we shall sincerely, really, & Constantly through the Grace of
God, endeavour in our severall Places and Callings, the Preservation of
the Reformed Religion in the Church of *Scotland*, in Doctrine,
Worship, Discipline and Government, against our common Enemies,
the Reformation of Religion, in the Kingdoms of *England and Ireland*,
in the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government, according to
the word of God, and the example of the best Reformed Churches,
and shall endeavour to bring the Churches of God in the three
Kingdoms, to the nearest Conjunction, and uniformity in Religion,
Confession of Faith, Form of Church Government, Directory for
Worship and Catechising, that we and our Posterity after us, may as
Brethren, live in Faith and love, and the Lord may delight to dwell
in the midst of us.

II. That we shall in like manner, without Respect of Persons,
endeavour the Extirpation of Popery, Prelacie, that is Church Govern-
ment

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Bishops, their Chancelors, Commissaries, Deanes,
Deanes and Chancelors, Archdeacons; and all other Ecclesiastical
Officers, dependent on that Hierarchie, Superstition, Heresie, Schism,
Prophaneness, and whatsoever shall be found to be contrarie to sound
Doctrine, and the power of Godliness; lest we partake in other
Mens Sins, and thereby be in danger to receive of their Plagues, and
that the Lord may be one, and his Name one in the three Kingdoms.

III. We shall with the same sincerity, Reality and Constancie in
in our severall Vocations, endeavour with our Estates, and Lives,
mutually to preserve the *Rights and Privileges of the Parliaments, and
Liberties of the Kingdom.* And to preserve and Defend the Kings
Majesty's Person, and Authority in the Preservation and defence of
the true Religion, and Liberties of the Kingdoms, that the World
may bear witness with our Consciences of our Loyaltie, and that
we have no thoughts nor Intentions to diminish his Majesty's just
power, and greatness.

IV. We shall also with all Faithfulness, endeavour the Discovery
of all such as have been or shall be Incendiaries, *Malignants* or evil In-
struments, by hindering the Reformation of Religion, dividing the
King from his People or one of the Kingdoms from another or
making any faction or parties amongst the People, contrarie to *this
League and Covenant*, that they may be brought to Publick Tryall
and receive Condign Punishment, as the degree of their Offences
shall require or deserve, or the Supream Judicatories of both King-
doms Respectively, or others having Power from them, for that
effect shall Judge Convenient.

V. And whereas the happiness of a Blessed Peace, between these
Kingdoms, denied in former times, to our Progenitors, is by the good
Providence of God granted unto us, and hath been lately Concluded
and sealed by both *Parliaments*: We shall each one of us, according
to our place, and Interest, Endeavour that they may remain Conjoynd
in a firm peace and Union to all Posterity, and that Justice may be
done upon the willful opposers thereof in manner Expressed in the
Precedent Article.

VI. We shall also according to our places & callings in this Common
Cause of Religion, Liberty and Peace of the Kingdoms, Assist and
Defend all those that enter into this LEAGUE and COVENANT,

in the maintaining thereof; and shall not suffer
indirectly, by whatsoever Combination, Persuasion, or Terror to be
Divided and withdrawn from this Blessed Union and Conjunction,
whether to make Defection to the contrary part, or to give our
Selves to a Detestable Indifferency or Neutrality in this Cause, which
so much concerneth the Glory of GOD, and the good of the Kingdoms,
and the honour of our King: But shall all the days of our Lives,
Zealously and constantly continue therein, against all Letts and
Impediments whatsoever, and what we are not able our
Selves to suppress and overcome. WE shall Reveal and
make known, that it may be timely prevented or Removed.
All which we shall do as in the light of God: And because
these Kingdoms are guilty of many Sins and Provocations against God,
and his Son Jesus Christ, as is too manifest by our present distresses and
dangers, the Fruits thereof we profess and declare before God and the
World, our unfeigned desire to be humbled for our Sins, and for the
Sins of these Kingdoms; especially that we have not as we ought Va-
lued the Inestimable benefite of the Gospel, that we have not
Laboured for the Purity and Power thereof, & that we have not Endea-
voured to Receive Christ in our heart, nor to walk worthy of Him in
our Lives, which are the causes of our Sins and Transgressions so much
abounding amongst us; & our true & unfeigned purpose, desire and En-
deavour for our selves, and all others under our Power and Charge,
both in publick and in private, in all duties we owe to God and Man
to amend our Lives, and each one to go before another in the Example of
a real Reformation, that the Lord may turn away his wrath and heavy
Indignation, and Establish these Churches and Kingdoms in Truth and
Peace. And this COVENANT we make in the presence of Al-
mighty GOD, the Father of all Heavens, with a true intention to perform
the same, as we shall Answer at that Great Day, when the Secrets of
all Hearts shall be disclosed: Most humbly Beseeching the Lord to
Strengthen us by his Holy Spirit for this end; and to bless our desires
and proceedings with such Success as may be deliverance and safety
to his People, Encouragement to other Christian Churches, Groaning
under, or in danger of the Yoke of Antichristian Tyranny, to Join in the
same, or like Association and COVENANT, to the Glory of GOD,
the Encouragement of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, and the peace
and the Tranquility of Christian Kingdoms and Commonwealths.



